

Testimony in SUPPORT of:

- [S.B. No. 184](#) (Raised) An Act Extending Through November 8, 2022, Several Changes Regarding Election Administration as a Result of Covid-19 and Concerning Eligibility to Vote by Absentee Ballot.
- [H.B. No. 5262](#) (Raised) An Act Revising Certain Absentee Voting Eligibility Statutes.

Hearing: FRIDAY, MARCH 4, 2022 – 10:00 AM

My name is Vanita Bhalla and I live in Woodbury, CT. I strongly encourage you to pass these bills because voting is very important to me and the current Absentee Voting laws are a hindrance to people like me. For 13 years I lived in Woodbury and worked in Westport. My work required me to leave town by 5:30 am and I was unable to return before 7:30pm, typically. Several times, I rushed home to vote and didn't make it in time either because I needed to work a bit late or because traffic was snarled. People should not have to choose between voting and earning a living.

Additionally, I believe voters should be able to vote this year by absentee ballot as COVID19 persists. I have a chronic condition that makes me more vulnerable to contagious diseases and COVID 19 continues to be an epidemic/pandemic. Please continue the COVID19 safety measures for 2022 and allow everyone who fears exposure to COVID19 to vote by absentee ballot.

Thank you

Vanita Bhalla

Woodbury, CT